PHANGAZINE

SPRING 2024 EDITION

@lgbtspaghetti

ABOUT US

Welcome to the *Phangazine*! This is a fan-led, fan-centric zine made to focus on the creativity and community of the Phandom.

However, we couldn't have done this alone! This magazine came to life because of a tweet by Abby (@cryptiddnp). This also isn't the first Dan and Phil magazine to exist—we must pay homage to *The Phandom Monthly* (2017-2020), *Snokoplasm Teen Mag* (2016), and a plethora of zines (shoutout Phanzines!) for inspiring us during production. The format of this issue relied heavily on audience submissions, and will continue to do so. More info on how to submit your work in our finishing thoughts at the end of the issue!

Together, (joined by a number of very talented artists, writers, and designers), we are proud to bring the first edition of the *Phangazine* to you. We hope you enjoy, and without further ado:

Happy reading!

- *The Phangazine Staff*

the tweet that started it all

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Mavis (@lgbtspaghetti)

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About Us

Adonis

20. California. psychology student. Chicano, Jewish, disabled, very annoying about Dan and Phil lore. Resident fan fiction writer and aficionado!
Saultransman on Twitter, bloodyscarab on Tumblr and ao3

Coby

19. California. Community college permanent resident. Talk to me about moviestarplanet rares and nefarious plots to rule the world. Also Dan and Phil poppy playtime.
Twitter: onfjre Tumblr: onfjre

Soph

18. Texas. A little too into philosophy and poetry. Favourite past times include watching Dan and Phil, thinking about Dan and Phil, crying about Dan and Phil. Check out @lesterology on Twitter for Dan Howell love to tweets :3

Sol

21, he/they, California. Video editor, film student. I edit bc of amazingphil, I'm in lesbian love w Dan Howell, and I know how to make websites bc I made one about Dan and Phil.
solarcynicism on Twitter + Solzedit on TikTok

Matilde

20. I study cultural heritage and I'm Italian. I watch Dan and Phil on repeat and I have never interacted with the phandom before even though
I have been following them for 5+ years (I missed out)
Twt: hotitaliantwink

Mavi

20. Argentina social communication student who can't socially communicate. Find me on Twitter @ineffablestring if you want to see me posting lyrics to songs that remin me of Dan and Phil and doing think pieces about old videos

Atticus

20, California. A dual major English Literature and Archaeology! A fencer and lover of Phil Lester. @faginof on Twitter and @sweetsscoundrel on instagram

Gab

Gab, 21, Utah. A little monster, video editor, and film student who loves Amazingphil. I'm @panickedblurs on Twitter and @viletapes on instagram.

Brooke

19. Kentucky. Theatre/film student that's only seen one play and not enough films...watched Dan and Phil since 2019, have developed a parasocial relationship with lion (lion trash #1!!) I also hate the golden pig...<3
See me ramble ab lion on Twitter @lionlester :p

America

Hai! I am America from Texas,20 and an amazingphil enjoyer! Love to be silly online and make memes. Recently became a Dan Howell supporter lastly I love the Color pink!!
Twt: @deltaruin

by: vic
vic
@incaseyouart

White, Creeping Sprouts

By: Adonis

"Phil. Heartleaf needs pruning."

The pale green sprouts brushing the ceiling reminded Dan of how the plant looked when they first bought it, then how it looked when they decided the pot would sit against the jagged wall. He remembered looking at it as they moved in, then a month after, white edges already nudging at rough black.

Now the sprouts brushed the ceiling.

There was something there about growth and time, though Dan wasn't concerned about growth. He couldn't find it in himself to really care if the darkest tendrils were cut from the rest. He imagined he would be sad to see the plant changed at all.

The plant had worked hard to grow those leaves. Dan had worked hard on reminding Phil to water it to grow to that size.

There was definitely something there about growth and time. Those pale green sprouts brushing against the ceiling reminded Dan of how much growing he and Phil had done over 15 years. They had grown in tandem, two little white sprouts inching up their own wall.

When Phil left the office to rinse his coffee mug, he noticed pale green sprouts brushing the ceiling.

"Dan. Heartleaf needs pruning."

I'm Not Ashamed To Say That I Really Missed Them During The Hiatus

By: Sunlight

It's Christmas Eve, 2018, and it's the ending of a chapter but it doesn't feel like it.
It feels, at first, like a bedtime story wrapped up for the night.
Bookmark in, gently set on the side table.
Sure, tonight is Thursday and so it'll be a few days before we continue,
but that's okay - that's how bedtimes go.

But Sunday never comes. We live in a world of endless Saturday nights.
It stops feeling like a bedtime story and starts feeling like a ripped page,
a burnt book that we found long after the flames had subsided,
far too late to be able to save it.

There are some pictures left but they're charred around the edges,
less a preserved memory and more of a resentment that we never saw the end.
But it's over. And that's just how it is. Things die. Winter comes. Books burn.
And perhaps we should be grateful that the fire didn't hurt anyone but we are not.

It's the middle of October in 2023, and it's the end of the autumn but it doesn't feel like it.
It feels, at first, like sunset on the summer solstice.
The days have been long, longer, and longer yet but tonight we will cross the apex.
Sure, we're never going to see the end of the story
but that's okay - at least the endless Saturday is over.

When we wake up, it's the first Sunday of the spring. There is a book on the bedside table.
It stops feeling like the beginning of winter and starts feeling like the end of it,
the first day after months of cold where you no longer need to wear a jacket,
when the sun on your shoulders belongs there - heaven.

The book isn't quite the same as it used to be,
it's less a preserved memory and more of a new one, a relief that we see a fresh start.
And the original is over. That's just how it is. Things die. Winter comes. Books burn.
But after the long chill of the winter comes spring, and we are grateful to be reborn.

PHASTROLOGY

FIRE

THE CHARIOT

This spring season, you must utilize strength and determination in order to achieve your goals! It's easy to get distracted and lose focus on what's essential to you. Assert yourself and be confident when making decisions.

EARTH

HIEROPHANT

Routine and tradition is something you implement into your daily life during this spring season. The Hierophant tells us that it's okay to want to accept help from others and branch into unfamiliar territory.

AIR

4 OF PENTACLES

You may be feeling rather reserved this spring season. When things feel out of control, it's hard not to attach your self worth onto certain areas of life such as material possessions and financial stability. Are you afraid of YouTube demonetization?

WATER

TEN OF CUPS

Love surrounds you! As we enter spring, the Ten of Cups indicates that you are approaching a state of contentment within your relationships. You may be entering a new chapter with these people, and it's important to listen to your intuition during this time.

DNP PLAY 'GETTING OVER IT'

SOMETHING TO TELL YOU

WHAT DNP TEXT EACHOTHER 4

WHY I QUIT YOUTUBE

~~BECKY~~ + JESSICAS

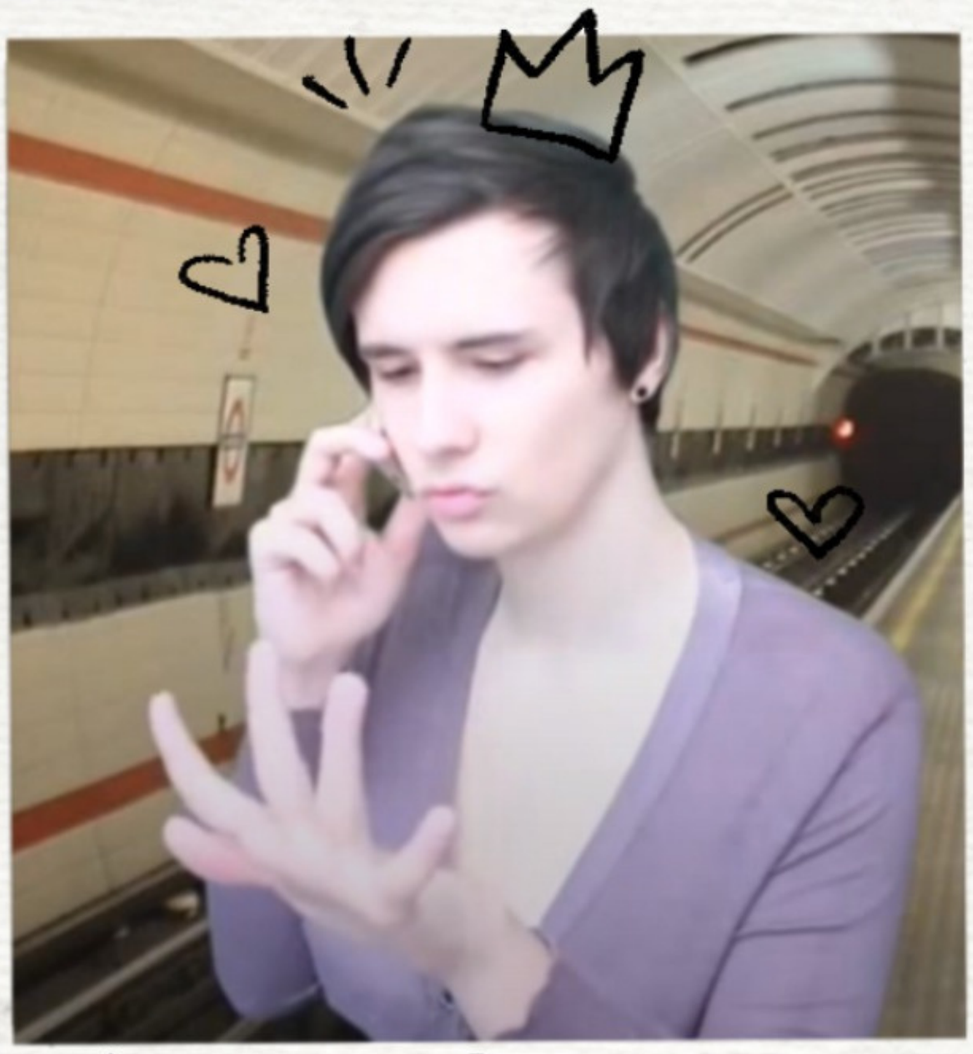
INZ OUTZ

BY COBY

INS:

- PINK LIPSTICK
- Kitten heels
- Cunty bowl Cuts
- ME !!!

(Jessica)



me being GORG as usual!!!!!!

OUTS:

- X becky
- X emojis in DN
- X hiatuses

YUCK

What the Hell Was the Pastel Meringues Video?

by: atticus

I know what you're thinking: "Wow…a 2024 issue of Phangazine and we bring up a video from 2017?" Well, yes! With Easter around the corner, I thought it would be fitting to revisit a video some of us might have forgotten. If you're anything like me, you've probably repressed this video as it reminds you of a time where you thought black skinny jeans and a Panic at the Disco hoodie were good clothing choices in 90 degree summer! Aside from the cringe attack you probably all have just had, let's get into the nitty, the gritty, and the sticky (fitting for the baking video).

This video starts with Dan and Phil posing with their arms in front of themselves, like two church boys waiting for mass to begin, how cute! And oh, Phil's haircut! A reminder of how far we've all come; the harsh fade on Phil speaks volumes. Of course, though, I can't continue to talk about the video without bringing up their "pastel-sona" change that sent more than shivers down my spine—the gay concoction of my nightmares.The video is filled with classic Dan and Phil banter and unnecessary innuendos. Phil has just twisted the lemon nipple, (no context needed). What does this have to do with the joys of Easter?

We all remember what the product of that video produced; essence captured beautifully and eloquently by Gordon Ramsay himself.

Watching this back, as harrowing and weird as it was, was honestly quite enjoyable (a Phannie enjoyed a DNP video; fork found in kitchen). Seriously, though, how many of you have seen this video more than maybe once this past year, be honest! One thing was evident above the cringe, the innuendos, the vomit-looking meringues and wigs so hideous it would have given Ru Paul an aneurysm—Dan and Phil really haven't changed their dynamic. We discuss how we've grown with them as people and while yes, there have certainly been some changes, (babes those haircuts), they're still the same gay, introverted, and weird nerds from six years ago. Thanks for joining me on this journey that either made you cry, cringe or cr– nope! Not in this spring issue!

On Pastel Edits and 2010s Fandom

By: Adonis

This issue's theme is spring, and as we broach the lovely months of March and April (sorry any Australian readers who have autumn now instead. What's that like?), I naturally thought of the great pastel edits video. By some Mandela effect, I had completely forgotten that this video came out in February and actually had nothing to do with spring (it was probably the subsequent baking video, which was spring-themed).

I think the pastel edits video, along with the punk edits video, are great lenses into the days of fandom culture past. As a part-time fandom historian, I thought it interesting to explore the since-defunct era of aesthetic-based photo edits through pastel edits.

Compared to other Dan and Phil videos about pop culture, the original pastel edits video hasn't aged too awkwardly. I would even argue the video has reminders of current Dan and Phil by way of energy, jokes, and ever-alarming "they're touching" moments. I vividly remember the shock this video created when it came out, as those aspects that we take for granted now were unheard of at the time.

2017-era fandom in general was very different, but especially for the Phandom. The Tumblr "adult content" ban didn't exist yet, Instagram video editing was at its peak, Twitter still worked as intended, and Dan and Phil were still the most-written YouTuber pairing on Archive of Our Own. In fanfiction, general fandom culture was growing overwhelmingly interested in alternate universes, a shift that would inspire the edit videos.

The two did two separate videos for punk and pastel edits, but in reality the two were mostly intertwined within fandom. One of the most common AU tropes around 2015-2017 for Dan and Phil was a combination of punk and pastel aesthetics, where Dan adopted a pastel persona and Phil a punk one. As a prompt, the tropes were meant to oppose the pair's real aesthetics at the time while still preserving the real-life way in which their aesthetics were opposite yet complimentary.

It's interesting to see how, even years ago, the two had fingers on the pulse of their fanbase and knew what we wanted based on interpersonal discussion. I'm forever in awe of their abilities to self-reference in a way unique to their community, and the Pastel Transformation video showcases this by highlighting the way Dan and Phil are able to acknowledge their community's interests while simultaneously contributing to them.

SOUND BARRIER

BUON VIAGGIO (SHARE THE LOVE)
Cesare Cremonini

CASA MIA
Ghali

SPRING IS COMING WITH A STRAWBERRY IN THE MOUTH
Caroline Polachek

SET ME FREE, IM AN ANIMAL
Sega Bodega

PLUM
Troye Sivan

THAT GREEN GENTLEMAN (THINGS HAVE CHANGED)
Panic! At The Disco

4EVER
Clairo

GOOD LOOK FOR YOU
Gavin Turek

SUPERBOY AND SUPERGIRL
Tullycraft

LOVE YOU
The Free Design

THE OTHER SIDE
Conan Gray

GARDEN SONG
Phoebe Bridgers

ITS ONLY SEX
Car Seat Headrest

SUNBURN
Muse

SUNNYSIDE
IDKHBTFM

ADULT DIVERSION
Alvvays

LION SECTION!

BY BROOKE

Lion has recently taken up a new hobby to find enjoyment amidst the troubles the golden pig has thrown at his family. After seeing Phil struggle to keep his plants alive for years, Lion grew a desire to achieve what his father has yet to accomplish. He's started a garden! His daffodils have beautifully bloomed, and his tulips are sprouting! Lioness and their cub are pitching in and planting strawberries to give to Phil this summer. However, as the lion family is forming new beginnings this spring, they must stay on the lookout for the golden pig, as he can strike at any minute. He doesn't like the joy the garden has brought our beloved lions. The pig has been lurking around their blossoming garden, and it's only a matter of time before their hard work is destroyed...

"Everything's Fine" by Daniel Howell - Analysis

By: Aimee

We're All Doomed begins with a boom–

darkness; and then a circular projector begins playing clips. The first is Greta Thunberg at the UN Climate Action Summit 2019: "Entire ecosystems are collapsing. We are in the beginning of a mass extinction." She's followed by news reports on multiple world issues as the strobe lights become frantic, on beat with the background track. The clips play in rapid succession, then end abruptly as spotlight beams on a black staircase. Dan emerges from a trapdoor beneath the staircase; he wears a black jumpsuit and a face of fear, eyes darting across the audience. His shoulders are slouched as he takes in his audience's screams. The instrumental of his song, "Everything's Fine," begins to play and Howell takes a deep, laborious breath. Dan then places his hands on his hips on a 'ding' sound while the screen behind him switches to a blue sky.

** Code for analysis: variations of 'fine', subtext, verbs, voiceover, blocking **

Dan begins the song with: **"Everything's fine, Totally fine"**, **stretching his arms on either side of him** on **'fine'** as he smiles. In this instance, it comes across as though Dan is simultaneously trying to convince himself and the audience that he's doing okay. In the next line, "**Got out of bed and brushed my teeth, Make some toast (or maybe some muesli?)**" Dan moves down the stairs, stopping to mime the line **"brushed my teeth"**, and pointing his left index finger downwards to pop some metaphorical toast into a toaster on the line **"Make some toast (or maybe some muesli?)"**. He has now descended onto the next step, making another hand gesture towards the audience. The use of these verbs are being used to set a story; they are tasks that every human follows as part of a morning routine, which can become a struggle when faced with a mental illness, like Dan's clinical depression.
Dan takes another step downwards as he sings "**I'm fine, Yup, everything's fine**", acting out getting dressed on"**fine"** and brushing dirt off his shoulder on **"Yup, everything's fine"** (symbolising the "brushing off of negative energy"). We then hear a doorbell as Dan approaches the last step on the line, "Oh, who's that over there?" (as stage left lights up), followed by "It's my neighbour, Valerie!" as he heads towards stage left to "greet Valerie". He waves over-enthusiastically while he sarcastically says "**I love people!"** followed by a pained half-laugh, nose scrunched in disgust. **Dan has stated previously over the years that he has social anxiety and claims to "hate people."**

Dan raises his left arm above his head on the line "**Lookin' out the window"** before pretending to stir tea on the line **"while my tea is brewin'."** He then flaps his arms to represent the lines "**The bees are a-buzzing"** and "**and the pigeons are a-cooing".** Dan says "It must be a sign, That nothing's out of line." The informal definition of "out of line" is "behaving in a way that breaks the rules or is considered inappropriate" (in this case, the "inappropriate" is unusual behaviour brought on by Dan's depression). We see Dan again saying "**everything is fine"** for both himself and the audience as he directs the next repetition of lines "**For you and you, And you and you"** to various audience members. He is elated that everyone is "fine".

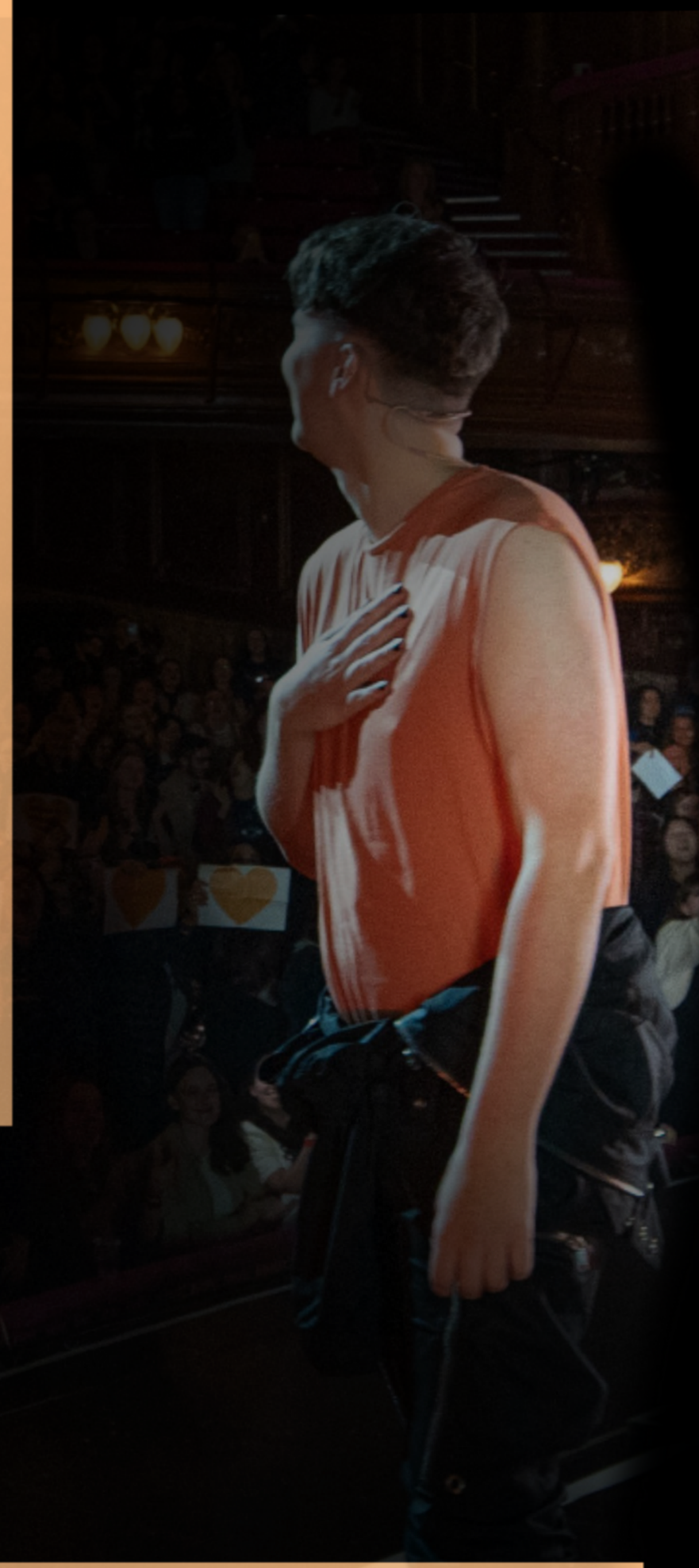
This is when Dan uses a voice over acting as narration of his inner voice to enhance his real feelings. We see illeism come into play with the line "***Dan, Daniel? Are you having another breakdown?***" Hearing his inner subconscious, Dan stumbles backwards with his arms outstretched, panicked as the sunshine animation's colours invert. The second Dan turns around, we hear the same 'Ding!' from the beginning as the sunshine animation returns to its original colours and Dan is seemingly positive again for a split second before it starts flitting between the pessimist and optimist lighting. Dan has now begun skipping whilst singing "**Everything's fine,**" but the background sunshine animation contrasts his words, a metaphorical mask coming away the more his subconscious speaks. He continues to awkwardly dance to divert from what his subconscious is telling him. "***You're spiralling. How long has it been since you spoke to your therapist?***" He stops skipping and attempts to drown his subconscious out with "**Lalalala**". It's evident that Dan is in denial about how he's feeling and is "spiralling" back into his depression. He would benefit from speaking to a trained professional. **Dan has been seeing a therapist to assist with his mental health since 2014.**

Dan now faces the inverted sunshine animation on the line "***How long has it been since you spoke to your therapist?***", displaying the same panicked expression as before. He turns back to exclaim "**I'm fine,**" but this time uncertainty paints his face. The voice over calls out "***You have clinical depression,***" to which Dan responds "I'm going online, Hello Internet!" Dan attempts to keep his metaphorical mask on by living his life through the Internet- the line also references the title of Dan's first YouTube video. Dan then says "So much respect and intersectionality" before quickly adding the "***[Coughs] Bullshit***" line—an attempt to divert from the issue by claiming "All I see is rainbows," perhaps symbolising Dan seeing numerous pride flags as a way of people showing their respect for his sexuality.

The lighting flits, again, to Dan's 'pessimist' side, covering the stage with darkness. Only Dan and the inverted sunshine animation are lit at the beginning of his subconscious' next lines. The line "***Dan, it's time to stop pretending, You're clearly in denial***" means that Dan is *pretending* to be someone he isn't and is in *denial* over a variety of things (i.e his sexuality). In this instance, it is Dan being in denial over how much devastation that the world is currently under ["***The world is literally ending***"]. Dan once again shows fear before sliding stage right and making jazz hands on the line "**Yes, everything is swell**", the lighting returning back to the 'optimist' setup with Dan travelling stage left, making a double thumbs up and repeating the jazz hands motion on "**It's going terribly well**", despite his face being scrunched up as a way of showing he's uncomfortable with the harsh truth settling into his brain. He goes to continue before his subconscious interrupts, this time naming examples of world disaster; "***There's drought, there's war, we are gonna self-destruct, The ocean's on fire***" and the lighting becoming pessimistic whilst Dan begins to curl in on himself, fingers pinched upon the bridge of his nose to show his head is hurting. He stills for a moment before his subconscious admits "***We are literally fucked.***" That soon snaps Dan out of an existential crisis to carry on trying to prove, to both the audience and himself, that everything is fine.

Dan rushes to the front of the stage to face the audience, exclaiming "**Fine!**" which causes an abrupt cutoff as his subconscious says "***...fucked!***", another way of placing a metaphorical mask over the issue at stake. He begins to dance on "**Yes, everything is fine!**" as an attempt to maintain the upbeat energy he's trying to channel before he begins to direct a series of "**For you and you and you-**" towards the audience again, far more aggressively this time, as if frustrated. Dan then gets cut off by his subconscious again to remind him, "***Dan, you have social anxiety, And you hate people"***, which is ironic since he is on a stage performing, and Dan attempts to brush upcoming lines under the rug with a series of "**It's fine**"s as he awkwardly laughs and takes large gulps, as though he is swallowing guilt, yet his subconscious nags on, trying to send him into another state of panic. It's cleverly executed that, this time around, when Dan is saying that things are "fine", the pessimist lighting remains throughout and makes no change to flit back over to optimism, as Dan begins to ascend the staircase heavy-footed, symbolising the weight of his subconscious. His breaking point, which is at the very top of the staircase, is when his subconscious asks him "***What are you going to do about the climate emergency?***" leading Dan to give in and slap himself across the face in sheer frustration and to silence his subconscious, bellowing "Shut up!"

We see Dan take a deep breath and on cue the optimist lighting returns behind him, as he begins to descend the stairs by **stepping down and kicking his each leg out on beat and his arms flicking out on either side,** symbolising Dan letting out the negative energy he has left while singing "**Everything's fine, Totally fine.**" This time, it sounds more meaningful. This small section is overly exaggerated on purpose, especially Dan hitting the high note in "**Everything's in perfect harmony**" and throwing the confetti excitedly, as another way of proving that things will all be okay for himself and his audience that he's created. His subconscious soon picks up on the over-exaggeration by saying "***Dan, this is going too far***" causing the pessimism to return and Dan **expressing a look of fear as he steps backwards, arm outstretched and matched with his heavy breathing as he panics** and declares a "dance break" as a way to bring the energy inside himself back up to remain positive. Dan begins to **break out into a series of frantic dancing** as he repeats continuously "**I'm fine,"** and this is the height of Dan's spiral, his **movements growing more erratic as he spins himself around and around in circles,** the imagery behind him cycling through pessimism and optimism. Throughout, we hear snippets of the subconscious growing increasingly concerned; "***Dan, Dan stop***, ***You're literally spiralling out of control***" before it brings him down fast with "***That is enough,***" causing Dan to collapse to the ground, out of breath as the imagery behind him fizzles into darkness. A singular spotlight highlights Dan as he lays on the floor on his hands and knees, crouched and wailing in pain, a microphone laid in front of him, waiting.



He stays in the same position for a while, panting as he comes to terms with what just happened, before the subconscious pipes in once more, causing Dan to **snap his eyes open and listen attentively.** Dan appears to be in a trance, suddenly getting scared at the realisation he's had a breakdown on stage and everyone in the audience were there to witness it as shown by his **shaking** on "***You have got problems, I think everyone here can see that***". He begins to **aimlessly play with his fingers** along the stage floor until his subconscious calls him out with "***It might be uncomfortable, Like, that time you pretended to love boobs for 28 years.***" That causes him to **sit up suddenly on his knees, offended, before lowering himself back down to his hands and knees in submission.** Dan now **has his eyes closed,** taking in each word with an added **head jerk** at hearing the harsh truths, before he **snaps his eyes open and takes in a sharp inhale** on "***Dan, you need to be honest, What do you really think?***" This scene represents Dan's thought process when it came to making the show, and **his eyes find the microphone**. Realisation settles in completely, knowing that if he doesn't speak up now and voice his opinions on the state of the world, then he never will. He begins to **crawl desperately towards the microphone, breathing in deeply before shouting** "WE'RE ALL DOOMED!" to begin the show.

WE'RE ALL DOOMED

Doom with a review

Aging With Your Audience: Why *We're All Doomed* Works

By: Holly

Picture this:

I'm 11 years old, hunched over a cracked iPhone in the darkness of my room. It's 2016, it's way past my bedtime, and I'm watching Dan Howell; I'm cracking a smile at his jokes and trying to contain my audible laughter at his sketches for fear of waking my sister, asleep three feet from me.

Now picture the same person, but a few years older. Eight years older, to be exact. A little taller, with bleach damaged hair and a sure-found confidence in their own identity as a lesbian. I'm sitting in a room full of over a thousand other people, yet it feels like nothing has changed.

And yet… things have changed. The man from eight years ago is a shell of the one who stood on that stage. And the person I was eight years ago is a shell of the person I am now. And the person sitting next to me is the same. And the person sitting next to them is the same. You catch my drift.

We all grew up with this man. Okay, fair enough, there are some fourteen-year-olds who have probably only known the gaming channel since post-hiatus, but the point still stands. So why the fuck do we all still CARE? Why are people crying? Why are people pissing themselves with laughter at every joke?

I think the simple answer is that, if there's one thing Dan and Phil know, it's their audience. I don't mean in any creepy, parasocial way or anything, but in a sense that they are so succinctly aware that their audience now are not the same people they were a decade ago. Yes, fine, they're a little cringe. A little too millennial maybe. But, shit. They get it.

We're All Doomed! is so special for this reason. People who are not privy to the world of Dan Howell may be extremely confused when they are met with his weird, dark, gay sense of humour. But for those of us that have grown up with it? I've waited YEARS for this. It's so vindicating to see queer joy, particularly from someone who has felt the need to hide himself away for the longest time. And considering that at least 99% of that audience is queer (that's not just me making things up… that's according to science), it hits! Different!

And the monologue at the end… holy shit. I don't think I've ever been so quickly reduced to tears… ever. The emotional power of his story concerning mental illness is so tender and so bittersweet. Showing the mood tracker app over the course of a year, having the tone so quickly drop from hilarity to the deepest depths of Dan's emotional turmoil was a sobering experience, and the main reason that I believe this show works so well. It certainly would have affected me from eight years ago, but not nearly as much as it did with me in 2024. I think it's genius. I think he knows exactly what he's doing - and I hope he never stops.

YOUR Q'S & OUR A'S

how do u make new irl friends when ur an adult like where do people go to do that, most if not all my friends are people i met in school and i love them but we dont share a lot of the same interests these days. do i have to sign up for a club or something?!??

New Message

To

Subject

Trust us, we understand that it can be hard to find a community outside of school! Many of us have indeed joined clubs and associations that appeal to our interests to really help find friends and people to get to know. Always look around for events near you that you find interesting and go; you never know who you'll meet. The most important thing is to not give up looking! Eventually, something will be there for you with people that you want to spend time with, and you want to be ready when that day comes!

Send

New Message

To

Subject

Don't worry ❤ he is there

Send

Phil isn't in my house I'm getting upset just thinking about it

New Message

To

Subject

Your boyfriend should be tolerant of your interests! If you care about Dan and Phil, he must learn to respect that. Maybe have a serious conversation with him…he might not realize that your passions are equivalent in importance to his. Hopefully, he'll learn to have an open mind and give them a chance!

Send

My boyfriend makes fun of me because I like D&P, I try to get him to watch their videos cause I genuinely think he would like them if he gave them a chance. How do I get him to accept my interests??

Hello Phangazine, I just wanted to know if you have any tips on how to find someone who can be my real best friend, my companion through life, like my actual soulmate who I can then share multiple apartments with until eventually we personally design a forever home together and live happily ever after and never get sick of each other even after 15 years of barely being apart from one another??

New Message

To

Subject

Dan actually posted a serious guide! Here's how he did it, paraphrased:
Step 1: Have your person of interest recognize your username/name.
Step 2: Have them associate your face with your name.
Step 3: Start making conversation with them! Converse about their interests!
Hopefully then, you guys will fall in love! If not, Dan recommends step four.
Step 4: Also stalk them until they love you
(Phangazine Mag does not promote unwanted surveillance or/and obsessive contact. This is a reference. Please do not sue us.)

Send

New Message

To

Subject

Believe it or not, it's possible. You're going to need about 100 young rodents. Preferably gophers. It'll take around four months. Basically, you're going to direct these gophers to claw into Twitter's HQ and chew through all the wires. This will inevitably cause Twitter to shut down. Now you strike—take your gophers straight to Musk and direct him to remove the app from the AppStore. The mere sight of all the sharp claws will strike fear into his heart. And there you go! Twitter is gone. This is a foolproof plan and we can vouch—we personally took down Vine using this method. Credit us if you follow through with it! Good luck!

Send

Sakura and the Joy of Impermanence

by: ollie

My journey watching Dan and Phil began amidst Gamingmas. Excited to delve into new media, I, an avid fan-culture enthusiast, embarked on a quest of discovery. Immersing myself in their older videos, Instagram posts, and Twitter musings, I unearthed the shared passion of these renowne British personalities for Japan and its culture, particularly their enchantment with cherry blossom trees. This revelation struck a chord within me, weaving a narrative of fleeting joys and the appreciation of life's transient beauty, akin to the significance of cherry blossoms in Japanese culture. Cherry blossoms, or sakura, hold a revered status as Japan's national flower, captivating admirers worldwide with their ethereal hues. As spring unfolds, hanami (cherry blossom-viewing festivals) festivities lure millions to witness this fleeting splendor. Beyond the aesthetic allure, sakura symbolize Japanese philosophies wabi-sabi and mono no aware, encapsulating the bittersweet essence of impermanence. Such reflections on the cyclical nature of existence evoke parallels with Dan and Phil's journey.

Dan and Phil need no introduction to anyone who was on YouTube during the mid-2010s. They hosted award shows, had movie cameos, and even ran their own BBC radio show. As a duo, they went on two worldwide tours and released two books, all ideas uncommon to the YouTube ecosystem at the time. Their dynamic rapport and pioneering contributions to YouTube culture garnered them a dedicated following, amassing over 1.4 billion views across their channels. However, this rise came at a cost – relentless, invasive speculation about their relationship strained their mental well-being. For many years, the uncertainty of how long YouTube as a career would last and the fleetingness it presented led them to take on unsustainable amounts of work without rest, as they were constantly in the public eye and unable to let their guard down. To reclaim their privacy, they publicly addressed their sexualities in separate videos in 2019, with Howell confronting the pressures of fame and media intrusion head-on. The announcement, which came after their second tour and the indefinite hiatus of their joint gaming channel, led to an extended period out of the internet for Howell (who sought to experience life outside of YouTube) and tranquility in Lester's channel.

This leads to the current Dan and Phil era, where fans are more respectful of them both. Despite waning subscriber counts, Dan and Phil have found solace in authenticity. Retreating from the limelight and taking back control of their time, they embrace a newfound freedom, delighting audiences with candid humor and a renewed sense of self-awareness.

Much like sakura, Dan and Phil's journey embodies the essence of evolution and resilience. While their global stardom days may have waned, their enduring allure remains undiminished for those loyal to them. As they navigate the changing seasons of life, their brilliance shines through, illuminating the path for those who cherish their authenticity.

art by axel

The Power of a Loyal Fanbase

By Mavi

Dan and Phil are YouTube pillars; their careers span 18 years combined. Although people doubted them, it's clear they understand the Internet, and aren't leaving soon. In my opinion, this created their loyal fanbase.

I started watching them in December 2016; I barely knew any English and I learned with their videos. They introduced me to a new side of the Internet and shaped my interests and humor. I've been watching them on-and-off since then, and dedicated my fair share of fan accounts to them. Something I noticed is that most accounts I followed years ago are still active. Most people who watch them have been doing so for years and often joke that they raised them. This is common with many celebrities, but after being in many different fandoms, this is the most loyal I've seen.

I think they understand their audience very well. In good and bad, they've had consistent fans who always supported them. In exchange for that support, they gave us joint tours, joint books, hundreds of videos, and the key factor: interaction. Dan and Phil don't treat their audience like "fans," or people who simply idolize them. Across their careers, they've listened to our suggestions, appreciated our art, held meet-and-greets, and more, showing an uncommon two-way creator-audience relationship. There's also the sense of community: fans interact with each other and form lasting friendships. The fandom is incredibly welcoming, and everyone interested has a space waiting for them.

The pair also kept up with the changing Internet perfectly. They mentioned many times that some things they did during their peak feel cringe now, but it worked at the time. Even now with the gaming channel return, playing popular games, and bringing back fan-favorite series, they understand what to do to stay relevant.

It's impossible to ignore the safe space their videos and community create for their audience. This fandom is full of people who may not fit in elsewhere. We were always the weirder kids, and we found somewhere where we all became the same. Throughout the years, this space helped many discover their sexuality and/or gender, and this felt more authentic after Dan and Phil came out themselves. Finding a place where you can be yourself (no matter if you're freaky) is something anyone "different" can cherish.

After talking to other long-time fans, it's clear that we always have something to enjoy and look forward to – and most of us don't plan on leaving. When you find a safe space, why go anywhere else?

Would you survive as Phil's houseplant?

Last minute, you get a day off of work. Are you showing up at your bestie's house for a surprise sleepover, or ordering in takeout to enjoy with a marathon of your fave show?

bestie

You're going on vacation to a brand new country you've been wanting to visit for years. Are you going to figure out your plan when you get there, or prepare a packed itinerary?

wing it

Have you been to at least 3 major cities apart from your hometown?

yes

Succulent
You're a real hippy go-with-the-flow person. You're always in need of a nap and can adapt to anything. You make it, but only because you can live on vibes alone.

no

Magic bean
You like to see yourself as being laid back, chill, and really cool, but you haven't seen much of the world and you're a tad needy. You wouldn't survive being in Phil's care.

plan it

You get into a squabble with someone stubborn. You know you're right. What do you do?

I'm right!

ZZ Plant
You overwhelm some but the people pleasers you adopt are grateful to have someone who speaks their mind. You live, you're indestructible.

It's not worth it...

Japanese Maple
You try your best but it often doesn't feel like enough. You probably won't survive, unless you really fight for it.

takeout

You have a really painful headache but you had plans that you and your friend were looking forward to. Do you tell them you're unwell and reschedule, or power through the pain?

reschedule

A coworker who's been rude to you in the past asks for help on a project. Do you help them?

maybe I'm wrong...

fine, I guess

At restaurants, do you always get the same thing, or try new dishes off the menu?

same

Corn Plant
You're so flexible that you don't know what you want and become indecisive. You wouldn't make it, you spend too long deciding what you need.

new

Kentia Palm
You're ride or die for your friends, even though you don't speak to them often. You would survive, your bond with Phil is unbreakable.

I'm fine!

Someone asks you out. You're not really into them but they seem super excited and sweet. Do you go on the date or tell them you're not interested?

you owe me one

Fairies Washboard
You mind your own business: thriving, independent, full of mystery. You'll make it: Phil won't remember you but you don't need him.

go out

Cactus
You need to learn to communicate. You go with the flow because you don't want to be a bother. You die: you feel bad asking for water.

nope! good luck!

Bonsai
You know that you're great. You're fun, elegant, and have high standards. You don't make it – you're too good for Phil, he was never going to be able to manage you.

tell them no

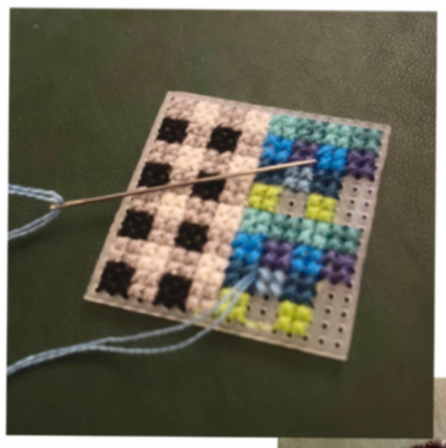
Seagrass
You can be a little anxious and unsure, as well as a bit defensive but you really just want to be loved. You live, Phil cares about you a lot.

CRAFTY CORNER

by: olivia

Dan and Phil Blanket Cross-Stitch

Beginner-friendly cross-stitch pattern



Try new things and embroider this design to make a DNP-inspired pin, patch, or other craft!

For this craft, you will need:

- DMC 6-strand thread (see colors below)
- A needle
- 14 count material (either plastic mesh canvas or aida fabric)

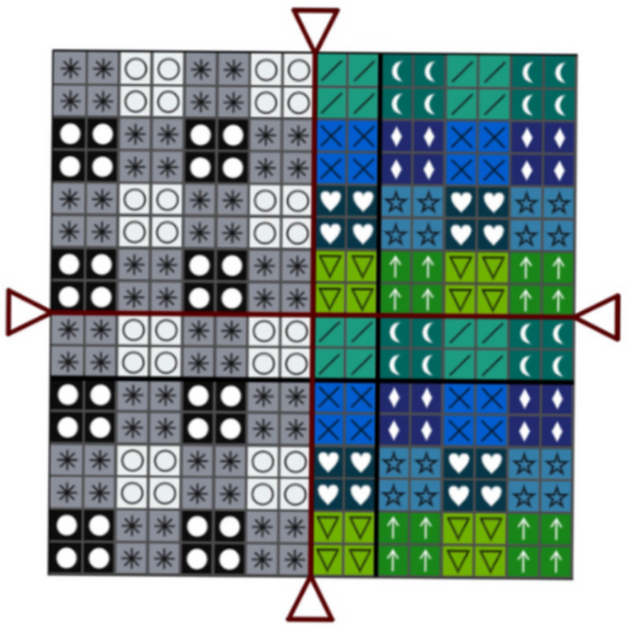
How To Cross-Stitch

The *count* refers to the number of stitches per inch. 14 count is the most common cross-stitch size, but the finished size of your craft depends on which material you use. The higher the count, the smaller your design will be.

Be sure to separate the individual strands from the 6-stranded embroidery thread before stitching!

See the cross-stitch diagram on the left for a quick tutorial.

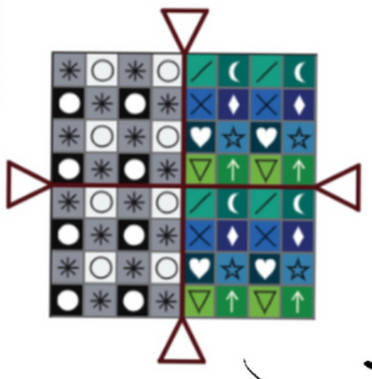
Pattern #1: 16 x 16



Specifications:

- Strands: 2
- Size: 1" x 1" (on 14ct aida)

Pattern #2: 8 x 8



Specifications:

- Strands: 2
- Size: 1/2" x 1/2" (on 14ct aida)

Thread Guide (DMC)

DAN		PHIL			
✳	03	♦	158	／	958
○	BLANC	☆	518	╳	995
●	310	↑	702	♥	3808
▽	907			☾	3848

DIY kits with all materials included are available at oliviengren.etsy.com!

FROM Italy TO PALESTINE

By Matilde

Within the collective outsider imagination, Italy has always been idyllic: good food, sunny beaches and beautiful art and culture. Recently, though, the truth of Italy has been uncovered. Bigotry, police brutality and censorship of Palestinians and their supporters have been rampant since October 7. First, there was the removal of the statement of singers calling for a ceasefire during the 2024 Sanremo music festival, then several incidents of police brutality during street protests and demonstrations. We spoke with Maurizio Acerbo, current secretary of the Italian Communist Refoundation Party, to hear his opinion on the current climate as a politician openly in support of the liberation of Palestine.

All questions and answers from this article were translated from the original Italian. Grammatical choices follow non-American or British English standards.

The horrible violent acts committed by the police during the demonstrations in Pisa, Florence and Naples were atrocious, but still some politicians justified the right of policemen to attack.

It's not the first time that this has happened. The right-wing parties defend the impunity of the police as an ideology of a repressive public order. Policemen vote for them because they act like their defenders, even when Stefano Cucchi or Federico Aldrovandi were killed (the latter was killed at 18 years old).

The right-wing party also took sides against the law that abolished torture. Meloni, our current prime minister, said that the law wouldn't let the police do their job. In Pisa, the demonstration was organised and led by minors in front of their high school; that is why it caused so much horror, otherwise they would have probably called the protestors extremists.

The new coordinator of Fratelli d'Italia (Meloni's party) in Naples has been associated multiple times with fascism. Do you think that this government is close to the fascist ideology?

Fratelli d'Italia is the successor of fascism. If you look at their symbol, they have the tricolour flame that represents the ever-burning flame that comes out of Mussolini's grave. After [italian] fascism collapsed, Togliatti, the prime minister representing the communist party, gave amnisty to a lot of fascists. They decided to form this party. Of course, they don't want to reform a dictatorship nowadays. They want to appear less threatening, but they never declared themselves *antifascisti* (antifascists). Ignazio La Russa, the president of the senate, has a Mussolini bust in his home and he declares himself *anti-antifascista* (anti-antifascits). They are conservatives. For example, Meloni and Salvini are against same-sex unions and immigration.

Talking about censorship, we had a lot of episodes of censorship in Italy recently, including the Sanremo one, where the channel Rai 1 censored two artists. That is really concerning to a lot of people

Rai 1 has been under the control of the parliament for some years now. It was the Democratic Party (PD) that made this law.

There is a climate of censorship in most international politics. It started with Ukraine where he government was supporting the war rather than a peace agreement. News stations were publicising the war and last year in Sanremo, a letter from Zelensky was read, which was pushing for a war. Of course, there is a form of control over the media in all Western countries.

The far-right party sides with the USA and most of the Western countries, so they side with Isarael. Lega (a far-right party in Italy) proposed a law to ban and punish protests for Palestine, but the same happened in Germany, where the left is in charge.

Before the war, Meloni didn't criticise Putin; instead she said that he was a great political man and that he was defending European values. When he invaded Ukraine and became an enemy to the USA, Meloni sided with them .

What is happening in Palestine is a genocide and we all know that, but do you think that Italy will ever recognise it as a genocide, since our government is Zionist?

The Italian government is not only Zionist, because some moderate Zionists are recognising that this is a genocide.

The Italian government is on the *extremist* side of Zionism. Einstein was a Zionist, but even he said that Netanyahu's party was fascist.

Also, as we know a lot of Jewish people have signed a petition that says that critising Israel is not a sign of antisemitism. However, it is unlikely that the government will ever side with Palestine. Even the moderate left [in Italy] is pro-Israel. Remember that the Democratic Party (PD) has prohibited Plestinian flags during various protests. However, Italians are starting to realise that it's a massacre and Meloni actually signed a timid ceasefire motion, so that is telling us that our protests are actually useful and pushing the government to do something.

I now want to speak to Italians as a fellow citizen: we need to fight for our rights and for a free Palestine, because protests are already doing a lot. People are changing their mentality; we are making them aware of the genocide that is happening. To everyone else in the world, we need to keep striking, boycotting and protesting. This is all too important, and we cannot let our countries give money to Israel and fund this massacre.

I feel that if everyone contributes, we can really make a difference, like the difference happening now here in Italy. Not all hope is lost yet. We still have a chance to stop this. We will fight until Palestine is free again. 🇵🇸

resources:

Palestinian journalists:
Bisan Owda (wizard_bisan1), Motaz Azaiza (motaz_azaiza), Hind Khoudary (hindkhoudary), Mohammed El-Kurd (mohammedelkurd), Muna El-Kurd (muna.elkurd15), Noor Harazeen (noor.harazeen).

Instagram accounts:
@palestinianyouthmovement, @eye.on.palestine, @aljazeerdaenglish, @jewishvoiceforpeace, @translating_gaza, @letstalkpalestine, @indyiamoore

Twitter accounts:
@timesofgaza, @muhammadsmiry, @careforgaza, @wizardbisan, @madhun95

Organisations:
pcrf, prcs, care (Palestine), unrwa, MSF (drs without borders for Palestine), pious: project feminine hygiene kits, esims for gazaesisms@gmail.com

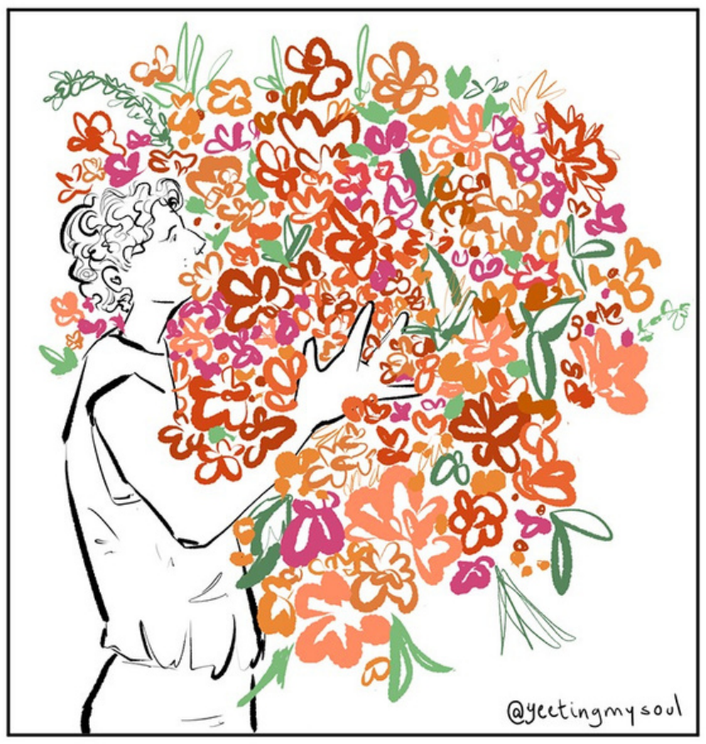
Documentaries:
Abby Martin's Gaza fights for freedom
Born in Gaza.

Websites:
Advocating for Palestine (handbook and guide to amplify Palestinian voices)
decolonize Palestine
Arab.org (do your daily click to help Gaza)

Books:
Freedom is a constant struggle- Angela Davis
The ethnic cleansing of Palestine- Ilan Pappé

By: @becky_is_bored

By: @irregulester



By: @yeetingmysoul

by: ethan

Dan and Phil's Plants and How to Care For Them

By: Lex

This is a catalog of houseplants that Dan and Phil have shown in recent years, what the plant's upkeep is, and if the plant survived under their care.

Phil posted a plant tour video on June 22, 2020. The first plant he presents is a little bonsai plant, alive at the time of this video. To take care of a bonsai, you water it everyday and ensure it's misted throughout the day. Later in the video he mentions a second bonsai, which is a bit dead due to them both underwatering and overwatering the plant.

In the video, Phil refers to another plant as "seagrass." The actual plant is called Dracaena Trifasciata, and looks like it is thriving. It's one of the plants Dan and Phil have owned the longest. One must be incredibly careful with watering this plant, since it only needs water every 2-8 weeks.

At the time of the video's upload, they owned a very healthy Aspidistra Elatior. As this plant grows, it is best to water this plant well and keep the soil lightly moist. After it is grown, let the soil dry in between waterings, since it doesn't need much water.

A gorgeous Peace Lily is definitely the highlight of this video and the one Phil is most proud of. He's had it since 2014. His does have a few dead bits, but this plant tends to revive itself and is hard to kill in later stages. To take care of a Peace Lily, you must lightly water it when the soil is dry and keep it in indirect light, preferably in an area that gets a bit humid, like bathrooms or kitchens.

The pair have two terrarium plants, called #1, #2, and #3 respectively. All of them appear alive and well. To take care of a terrarium plant, you have to keep them in natural light (but not in direct sunlight) and water only when the soil has dried. Phil presents a fourth terrarium later in the video that has died.

A Zanzibar Gem plant they have looks very healthy and even began to flower, which is probably due to them watering the plant only when the soil is dry, and making sure that the plant is not over- or under-watered as recommended.

Unfortunately, most of these plants died when Phil was left alone with them when Dan left for his tour. Perhaps Phil could have used this guide!

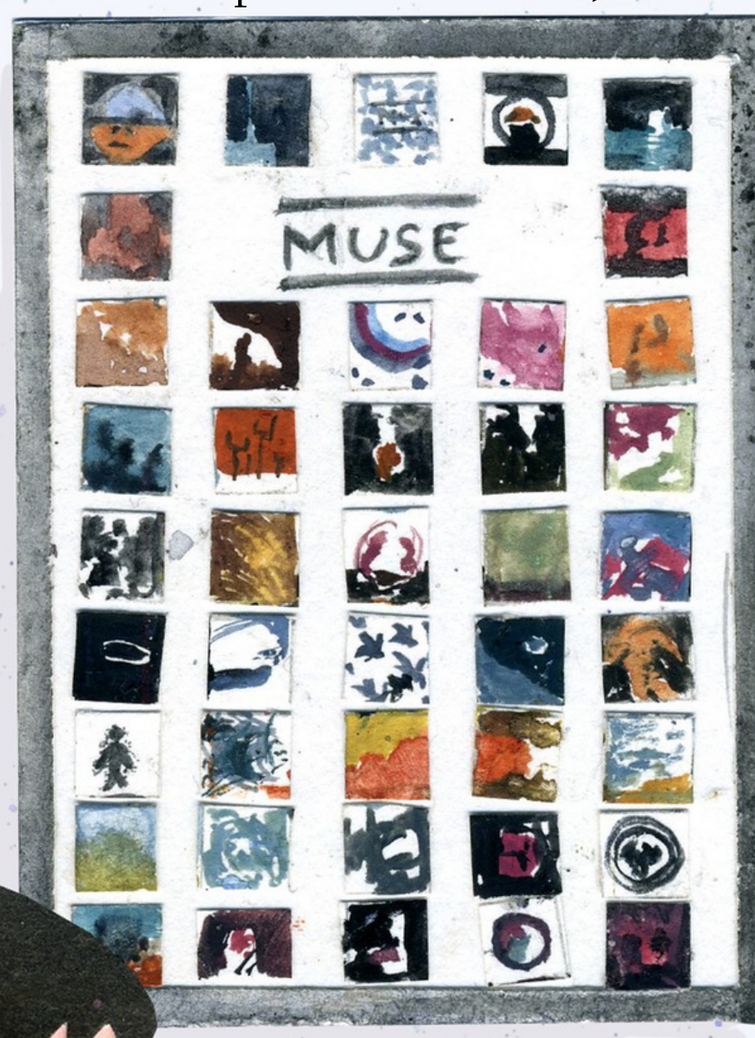
COMFORT VIDEOS: A PHANDOM PHENOMENON

BY: ARIANA

People have always been drawn to familiarity as an escape, with the notion of comfort content shaping modern consumption. Sources of such media have branched into the lives of real people, who provide libraries of content to fall back on in distress. As communities have formed around digital creators, specific releases are notably held dear to fans. Dan and Phil are no exception, as within 18 years' worth of content, certain uploads have found themselves at the forefront of the phandom zeitgeist, renowned as comfort videos.

Personal experience and bias determine the solace found in one's niche favourites. As factors like nostalgia and relatability may draw one to childhood classic films over new releases, they too may lead to favouring certain videos; a Dan VS Phil of their favourite game, the first video of theirs they ever watched, a day in the life filmed in their city.

However, it is collective experience that determines fandom-wide appreciation. Regardless of when one became a fan, we all find pleasure in early videos – from 'Amazing Dan' to 'Blindfolded Cat Face Game.' As Dan himself put it, they are "distant and domestic." Although any era can be returned to at any moment, the early years and post-coming-out content seem to be opted for most often, beloved en masse and obsessively rewatched.



This may be why the PINOF reaction videos have cemented themselves as immediate fan favourites, the combination of recency with shared nostalgia. Yet despite fans recoiling at every "they're touching!" joke, the pair's ability to tease both us and their past selves offers a flood of relief. As we relive the cycles of shifting energy, we do so against the backdrop of them now: undeniably open, vulnerable, and retrospective of their closeted era, ultimately having grown with their fanbase. It is the unscripted domestic energy and the unsuppressed jokes and laughter that allow the viewers to feel as if they, too, are sitting cross-legged eating pizza, engaging in conversation that, even when steering towards the existential, has Phil there operating as remote crisis management.

While one might assume that videos set apart from the rest with crazy challenges and clickbait are preferred, external factors are irrelevant. Whether Dan and Phil are filming soothing interactions with cats and dogs or rage-fuelled gaming videos does not impair the space taken up in viewers' hearts. Although parasocial, this is because the comfort that we find as viewers is intrinsically tied to how comfortable Dan and Phil themselves are in filming.

Art by: Mavis

PHANDOM NEWS

by Lex

After five long years, Dan and Phil Games's hiatus ended on October 15, 2023 with a video titled, "Saying Goodbye Forever." Since that video was released, the Phandom has been blessed with frequent uploads and multiple iconic events that will go down in Dan and Phil history.

On November 16th, Dan and Phil released their second animal-themed calendar, this time including cats. The announcement came with a video recording their experience making the calendar. On December 5th, they began a series of reactions to their old "Phil is not on fire" series, which caused countless fans to flock back to the gaming channel to tune in.

A huge and incredibly important event happened on Phil's birthday, January 30th, 2024. They hosted a charity stream for the Palestine Children's Relief Fund, in which they raised over $120,000. In this stream, they played Mario Kart with fans, played smash or pass with Pokémon characters, and sang Phil happy birthday. To end the stream and reward viewers for hitting a donation incentive, Dan gave Phil an eyebrow slit and promised to get a matching one after the digital release of his comedy stage show "We're All Doomed!"

If you bought an online ticket to the show, you were granted access to the official digital recording of the performance. Viewers gathered together on February 26 to enjoy, accompanied by a pre-show "Orange Carpet" hosted by Phil. Once the show ended, Dan hosted a live-streamed "afterparty" answering fans' questions, after which he made good on his promise and got his very own eyebrow slit to match Phil's.

The Phandom was then taken by surprise when Dan and Phil dropped an album called "All or Nothing" by DanAndPhilBEATS on February 29th. The lofi-esque album was a collaboration with lowave records, which included twenty songs created to capture the classic DanAndPhilGAMES vibe.

The Phandom isn't sure what the future holds for DanAndPhilGAMES or their own respective channels, but the events that have taken place over the past year have meant the world for those who have been waiting patiently since 2018 for the gaming channel's return.

by: dwayne

Finishing Thoughts

So, that concludes our first edition of the *Phangazine*!

Thank you, in no particular order, to the artists: Vic (incaseyouart), Mavis (lgbtspaghetti), Dwayne (LEG0VAMPIRE), Ethan (bradthechaddad), Mile (yeetingmysoul), Char (irregulester), Axel (veryblueartichoke), Atlas (phrumbs), Becky (becky_is_bored), and Angely (artsyangely).

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To our graphic designer, Soph/Nate (lesterology), and web designer, Sol (solarcynicism).

To Abby (cryptiddnp) for the initial idea.

To Brandy and Hazel from Phanzines on Tumblr, for being so understanding and supportive about our similarly-named project.

To our incredible pinch-hitter page layout team: Gab (panickedblurs), Mavi (ineffablestring), PJ (amaz1ngpeej), Matilde (hotitaliantwink), and Alba (pinsupansu)!

And to the rest of the Phangazine Staff, who all worked incredibly hard on helping bring this beast together! The staff would specifically like to thank and recognize Coby (onfjre) and Adonis (saultransman) as our hard-working Editors in Chief!

If you would like to be a part of future issues, please check out our website or social media (phangazine on Instagram, Twitter, and Tumblr) for updates on what we're looking for and how you can get involved!

art by mavis